



Town of Mammoth Lakes

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Town News

Week of May 21, 2012

News from the Town Manager

Town Council Meeting – June 6

The next meeting of the Town Council will be held on Wednesday, June 6, 2012 beginning at 6:00 p.m. Visit the [Streaming Media Archive](#) to review the previous meeting minutes or view the webcast Town Council meeting.

Town Clean-Up Day - May 19

Take Pride in Your Neighborhood and Volunteer to Help Clean Up Our Town!

New this year, the Town, in partnership with Mammoth Disposal and Sierra Conservation Project, will set-up TOWN CLEAN-UP DAY STATIONS conveniently located throughout Town. Each station will accept trash/recycling material and green waste. No food waste or construction material please.

Visit www.ci.mammoth-lakes.ca.us, the Town Offices, Mammoth Lakes Welcome Center, The Sheet or Mammoth Times for a detailed map identifying the eight (8) Town Clean-Up Day Stations, open from 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. on Saturday, May 19, 2012. Mammoth Creek Park will be the hub for Town Clean-Up Day activities where you can get maps and directions to the eight stations located at: Mammoth Disposal Transfer Station, Fire Station 1 & 2, Canyon & Eagle Lodge, Mammoth Lakes Community Center, and 2 locations in Sierra Valley sites.

The Town and Mammoth Disposal will NOT be distributing or collecting orange trash bags this year. Please purchase your yard-waste bags from local businesses, including the Do-It Center or High Country Lumber?ACE Hardware.

“Town Clean-Up Day is an immense undertaking that would not be possible without the generous support of our many partners, along with the willingness of the community to pitch in and help clean-up their neighborhood,” commented Stuart Brown, Recreation Manager for the Town of Mammoth Lakes.

Please do not leave filled bags on the side of the road. These items will not be collected by Town staff or Mammoth Disposal. Please deliver these items to Town Clean-Up Day Stations conveniently located throughout Town, or directly to the Mammoth Disposal Transfer Station at 59 Commerce Drive.

The USFS and MLFD will recycle green waste, such as: pine cones, needles, and tree limbs less than 12” in diameter. FREE of charge on Saturday, May 19, 2012 between 8:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. at the Mammoth Disposal Transfer Station.

For additional information on Town Clean-Up Day or to volunteer your group or organization to clean up an area of Town, contact Recreation Supervisor John Connolly at (760) 934-8989 ext. 234, or to arrange for collection of abandoned vehicles, please contact Sr. Building Inspector Johnny Goetz at (760) 934-8989 ext. 244.

Town Clean-Up Day is proudly supported by the Town of Mammoth Lakes, County of Mono, Mammoth Disposal, Sierra Conservation Project, United States Forest Service, Mammoth Lakes Fire District, Mammoth Mountain Ski Area, and the Mammoth Lakes Chamber of Commerce.

The Town thanks you in advance for taking pride in your community!

MLPD Community Hispanic Town Hall Meeting – June 8

The Mammoth Lakes Police Community Hispanic Advisory Committee has finalized plans for the next Town Hall meeting scheduled for Friday, June 8 at 4:30 p.m. The Town Hall meeting will be held at the Grand Sierra Lodge, 1111 Forest Trail.

Presentations will be made by representatives from the Mexican Consulate, the Mono County Superior Court on the CASA Program, the Department of Motor Vehicles on licensing, and a joint presentation on disciplining children by the Mammoth Unified School District and Wild-Iris. There will also be an Open Forum where questions can be asked of representatives of these agencies along with the Police and Fire Departments of Mammoth Lakes and the Mono County Sheriff's Department.

Interpreters will be present and it will be possible for attendees to ask questions anonymously by way of using index cards. Food will be provided and there will be supervised child care.

The Hispanic Advisory Committee was created in late 2010 in an effort to build trust and improve communications between the Police Department and the Hispanic community of Mammoth Lakes.

Town Of Mammoth Lakes Dog License/Vaccination Clinic - June 9

It's time to renew Town of Mammoth Lakes dog licenses for the upcoming fiscal year. Join us for our annual license sale/vaccination clinic in the Police Department parking lot on Saturday, June 9 from 4 to 5:30 pm.

If your dog does not need a rabies vaccination update, you can just purchase a license for \$13 if your animal is spayed/neutered or \$30 if it is not. You don't need to bring your pet to the clinic unless it needs a vaccination update. Dr. Gaylon TeSlaa and the staff of Alpen Veterinary clinic will be on hand with low cost vaccinations for both dogs and cats.

Please bring proof of spay/neuter if applicable, and proof of a current rabies vaccination if your dog is not due this year. If you are paying by check, and will be purchasing a license and vaccinations, remember that you will be paying two separate bills.

For everyone's safety, please have your dog on a leash and your cat in a carrier. If your animal doesn't do well with others, please leave it in your car until you complete your paperwork, and the vet will come to your vehicle to administer the shots.

By law in California, all dogs over the age of 4 months must have a license and be vaccinated against rabies. Mammoth Lakes does not require a license for cats.

If you don't live in Mammoth, but can't make any of the Mono County clinics, you are welcome to bring your animals for vaccinations. We won't, however, be able to sell you a Mono County dog license.

You may now purchase 2012-13 TOML dog licenses at the MLPD front counter, Tuesday through Friday, 8 am to 3 pm. Please bring proof of spay/neuter and current vaccination, or we cannot sell you a tag.

For further information contact Mammoth Lakes Police Department at (760) 934-2011, ext 0.

Notice Of Vacancies: Planning Commission, Recreation Commission, and Transportation Commission

Notice Is Hereby Given that three terms of office will become vacant on the Planning Commission; four terms will become vacant on the Recreation Commission; and two terms of office will become vacant on the newly formed Transportation Commission. These terms of appointment are for four years and expire on July 31, 2016. One vacancy on the Recreation Commission is for an unexpired term, and that one appointment will expire on July 31, 2014.

The Planning Commission meets on the second Wednesday of the month at 2:00 p.m. The Recreation Commission meets on the first Tuesday after the first Monday of each month at 2:00 p.m. The Transportation Commission is a newly formed commission combining the Airport and Mobility Commissions, and their schedule will be approved at their first meeting.

Interested parties should file an application with the Town Clerk on or before Friday, June 8, 2012 at 5:00 p.m. Application forms may be obtained from the Town Clerk at the Town Offices, Minaret Village Shopping Center; or by writing to P.O. Box 1609, Mammoth Lakes, CA 93546, Attention: Town Clerk; by phoning 934-8989, ext. 267; or by emailing the Town Clerk at jgray@ci.mammoth-lakes.ca.us. The form can also be found on the Town's website, www.ci.mammoth-lakes.ca.us.

Calls for Service/Officer Observations

100, including 3 business/building checks

Crime Incident Reports

25 reports, including 10 arrests

Traffic Stop/Citations/Traffic Collisions

12 stops; 2 citations; 3 parking citations; 0 skate park citations; 0 collisions

Animal Control Incidents

2 incidents; 0 reports

Wildlife

4 calls; 1 report

Projected Average Resort Occupancy

Friday, May 18, 2012 - Saturday, May 19, 2012 = 23%
(20% same weekend in 2011, up 3% in 2012)

Sunday, May 20, 2012 - Thursday, May 24, 2012 = 21%
(18% same midweek in 2011, up 3% in 2012)

So far for Memorial Day weekend Friday 5/25/12 - Sunday 5/27/12 = 37%

Twitter

Follow 'TownofMammoth' daily on Twitter at www.ci.mammoth-lakes.ca.us.

Community Development

TOT Enforcement and Revenue Collection - May 18, Update

In August 2011, the Town of Mammoth Lakes implemented an aggressive transient occupancy tax (TOT) enforcement and revenue collection program. TOT collection, compliance and enforcement are critical components to the success of our resort community of Mammoth Lakes. The following is our bi-monthly update of enforcement and collection activity and progress.

What's New?

- **100th case of the year!** Town staff has filed its 100th TOT case on the year!
- **TOT Violation & Collection Activity as of Friday 5/11/12** - 183 total enforcement cases (up from 178 prior report)
 - 8 New cases (opened in the last two weeks)
 - 87 Closed cases (cases are periodically monitored to ensure continued compliance)
 - 60 cases determined to be legal use with valid business and/or TOT certificate
 - 27 cases transient rental activity abated, business and/or TOT certificate obtained
 - 88 Open Cases
 - 46 cases under investigation and/or notice of violation letters in progress
 - 21 notice of violation letters issued, awaiting reply by responsible party
 - 21 cases administrative citation letter issued, awaiting reply and abatement
 - 92 New Business Tax Certificates (Since August 8, 2011), last updated May 14, 2012
- The Mammoth Lakes Board of Realtors is revising the real estate disclosure form consistent with the California Association of Realtors recommendations.
- **Find out if your property is zoned for transient rentals!** Staff has developed a web application to help property owners, realtors, property

management companies, and other members of the public to determine whether or not transient rentals are permitted on all property around town. Use the link below to search by address, APN, or complex name to find your property. <http://gis.mono.ca.gov/TOT/>

- **Staff is now processing assessments to capture escaped TOT revenues.** The Town is in the process of sending out letters to all property owners that have been the subject of enforcement action informing them of the upcoming assessment process and advising them that we will not be preparing assessments on properties that voluntarily pay their TOT. Property owners will have two weeks to contact the Finance Department to pay their TOT and after that time staff will begin assessments.
- **Fiscal Year 2012/13 TOT escaped revenue target.** The Town's conservative estimate for escaped TOT revenue collection is more than \$500,000, and is included in the FY 12/13 budget.

What's Next?

- **May–June:** The Town will surge on assessments and will continue with enforcement efforts.
- **July–September:** The Town will continue with assessments and enforcement and will explore automation of the TOT payment system to make it easier for remitters to pay TOT.
- **September–November:** The Town will begin preparing for the next winter season by issuing press releases, conducting public outreach while continuing with the enforcement and revenue collection program.

Major Accomplishments

- The Town Manager established the Community Development Department and Finance Department TOT Enforcement and Collection Team who are dedicated to implementing this high priority program directed by the Town Council.
- Regular meetings are held with Town staff team and the "TOT Committee" representing the Town's lodging community to discuss progress, new issues and ideas and program improvements.
- In January and February the Town Council approved changes to the Municipal Code to strengthen and clarify Chapters 1, 3, 5, and 8 which will improve TOT enforcement by clarifying and simplifying fines and recovery of legal costs related to processing administrative citations and misdemeanors and nuisance abatement.
- Extensive public information has been made available through periodic press releases and Public Service Advisories (PSAs), by direct mail to property owners and on the Town's web page to increase awareness and knowledge of the importance of TOT to the community, and about TOT and zoning rules. For TOT-related information, please visit www.ci.mammoth-lakes.ca.us, call us at **(760) 934-8989 ext. 275**, or send an email to: **tot@ci.mammoth-lakes.ca.us**.
- The TOT hotline and email address are checked each day to obtain TOT tips and complaints which are quickly turned into active enforcement cases. We also respond to public questions received through these sources.

- Based on tips and research, both TOT revenue and zoning violations are being processed according to the Municipal Code. Staff conducts web and field research to find possible TOT violations and is issuing warnings (citations and fines are now underway) to responsible parties for both revenue and zoning collection violations.
- Administrative Citations are being issued to responsible parties who have failed to respond and comply with letters of warning. The Administrative Citations describe the specific zoning and/or revenue violation of the Municipal Code, the initial fine, subsequent fines and legal action, the time to correct the violation, and how to appeal the citation.
- Public outreach is continuing regarding assessments and advising property owners to pay any unpaid or past due TOT to avoid the assessment process.

We Want to Hear From YOU!

The Town values the quality of life of our residents and visitors. Because TOT is so important to maintaining our community's vitality, we are making a concerted effort to make it easier to find information about, and to comply with, TOT and zoning rules. For TOT-related information, please visit www.ci.mammoth-lakes.ca.us, call us at **(760) 934-8989 ext. 275**, or send an email to: tot@ci.mammoth-lakes.ca.us.

Closure for Highway 120 East - Pavement Rehabilitation Project – May 7

The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) plans to close Highway 120 East as part of a \$3.5 million pavement rehabilitation project. The Highway will be closed for 8 miles from Adobe Ranch Road to 22 miles east of Hwy 395. Traffic is requested to detour via Benton Crossing road.

Closure Dates: Monday, May 7, 2012 6:00 am thru May 24, 2012 5:00 pm.

After May 24, 2012, one way traffic control will be in effect until early July. During this time the roadway will have a non-paved traversable surface. Two-way traffic will be available during weekends and holiday periods. For the safety of the construction crew and motorists, please be attentive to closures, slow for the cone zone, and move over one lane where possible.

About the Project: This project is a Cold Foam In-Place Recycling pavement rehabilitation which consists of pulverizing the existing asphalt concrete pavement and a portion of the underlying granular base to a maximum depth of 12 inches, mixing with a foamed paving asphalt, grading and compacting the recycled mixture, and overlaying the recycled surface with a new layer of hot mix asphalt (HMA).

This \$3.5 million project, which will be completed in July 2012, will extend the life of the pavement, reduce maintenance costs and closures, and provide a smoother ride for motorists. The contractor is Qualcon Contractors, Inc. of Minden, Nevada.

Community News

Goodbye Winter, Hello Summer!

Mammoth will be one of the only resorts in the country open for skiing and riding this Memorial Day Weekend, but that's not new. What is new and exciting is that we're

opening all of our summer activities - mountain biking, golfing, scenic gondola rides, climbing wall and kids' zipline - on the same weekend! So - come say goodbye to winter's last runs and welcome summer on the golf course, out on the bike trails and with post-hike drinks on the Yodler sundeck.

SKI/RIDE + BIKE + GOLF

Can you do it all in one day? Test your tolerance for fun this Memorial Day Weekend with these one of a kind tickets you can only get at Mammoth!

SKI/RIDE + BIKE + GOLF TICKET - \$99/day

The ultimate challenge for the outdoor enthusiast - 9 holes at Sierra Star Golf Course plus unlimited skiing, snowboarding, and mountain biking - all in one day!

SKI/RIDE + BIKE TICKET - \$79/day

Tackle the mountain on your skis, board and two wheels with as much skiing, snowboarding, and mountain biking as you can fit into one day!

SKI/RIDE + GOLF TICKET - \$79/day

Hit the slopes then hit the links when you play 9 holes on the verdant green fairways of Sierra Star after a full day on the mountain.

Call 800.MAMMOTH (800.626.6684) to book now!

Chix on Stix! – May 18

Supported by Luna Bar and hosted by Stacey Cook and Friends, "Chix on Stix" is dedicated to connecting women through the love of sports, good health and the outdoors. Join U.S. Ski Team racer Stacey Cook for a weekend (May 18-20) of fun and learning on the mountain, plus spend some quality time with your new friends off the slopes with fun cooking classes, yoga and the Luna Film Festival. Sorry guys - this exclusive event is for ladies only!

Celebrate The First 50 Days of Fishing Season!

Trout season is in full swing and is starting strong with warm temperatures and big hungry fish. It's the "50 Days of Fishmas" in Mammoth Lakes until Monday, June 18, 2012. Don't forget to purchase your tickets for a chance to win a 14 foot Klamath Deluxe S Boat, Honda 8 marine HP motor, and an EZ Loader trailer. Visit EasternSierraFishing.org for all the details.

Bluebird Imaging & Gallery Grand Re-Opening Reception – May 25

Bluebird Imaging and Gallery has moved across town to the Mammoth Luxury Outlet Mall. The community is invited to the Grand re-Opening Reception on Friday, May 25 from 5:00 – 8:00 p.m., and the ribbon cutting ceremony on June 12 from 5:00 – 7:00 p.m. Meet the artists, enjoy live music and wine and appetizers served!

Memorial Day Weekend Spring Race Camps – May 26

Perfect your racing skills with expert coaching from world-class ski racers! Join US Ski Team members Stacey Cook, John Teller, Steven Nyman and TJ Lanning this Memorial Day Weekend for the Speed Racing Camp, where you'll focus on the technique and tactics of the speed skiing disciplines. Join X Games Gold Medalist John Teller May 19 & 20 to hone your head to head racing chops at the Skier Cross Camp.

Final Registration for Mammoth AYSO Soccer – June 2

Final registration for Mammoth AYSO fall soccer is **Saturday, June 2, 2012** from 9:00 AM—12:00 PM at Shady Rest Park. Join us for a complimentary Challenger Sports Soccer Clinic, and register your player or yourself as a volunteer parent, coach or referee. We need your Help! The cost is only \$65 per child, or \$55 for the 2nd or \$45 for the 3rd child. Fees include a new Challenger Sports uniform, team photo, great coaching, tournaments and awards! Age Divisions: U5 & U6 Coed / U8 / U10 / U12 / U15 & U19. For complete registration information, call (760) 709-2481, email: Mammothayso@gmail.com or visit www.Mammothayso.com.

Recreation Highlights

Whitmore Pool Public Lap Swim Begins May 21

Public lap swimming at Whitmore Pool begins **Monday, May 21, 2012**. Lap swimming is offered midweek between 6:30 – 8:30 a.m., excluding Wednesday for Tri Club Training. Starting Tuesday, May 22, join us for evening lap swim every Tuesday and Thursday between 5:30 – 7:00 p.m. The cost is \$4.50 drop-in; \$100 Adult Season Pass; \$155 Family Season Pass (good for recreation swimming as well), or purchase the new 5 Swim pass \$20 (6th swim free!). The Pool will be closed on Monday, May 28, 2012 for Memorial Day.

Stroke Improvement Classes: Join certified swim instructors/coaches every Monday morning for some training! Classes are designed to improve the four competitive strokes, as well as get you trained up for that triathlon you signed up for this summer! Classes run 8:30 - 9:30 a.m. through August 27. Cost is only \$10 per session.

Little Sluggers Instructional T-Ball Has Begun

This is a great program for ages 2 – 5, designed to introduce your child to the wonderful sport of baseball. It will provide a unique opportunity for parents to share quality time with their children while preparing them for future softball and baseball activities. This program is designed to teach the fundamentals of baseball in a clinic and mock-game setting. (All parents are encouraged to help with their children, don't be shy just hop right in there). The program is scheduled every Wednesday from, 5:15 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. beginning May 9 – June 13, 2012 at the Mammoth Elementary School. Cost is \$36/child, and spots are still available!

Mountain-Bike Camp - June 22

Join the Recreation Department staff and local pro bike-shop riders in this intensive three-day (Wednesday–Friday) camp from **June 20–22, 2012**. We'll bike all over Mammoth (and Mammoth Mountain Bike Park). For ages 9-13 years old, the fee is only \$126/\$105 Early Bird if you register at least 10 day in advance. Register at the Recreation Department Office or call (760) 934-8989 ext. 222 for information.

U.K. International Soccer Camp: Session 1 – June 25

Professional British soccer coaches will once again host these popular camps. Coaches provide a safe, educational, and FUN program for ages 4–16 years old. The first 5-day session begins **Monday, June 25, 2012**. The cost is only \$105 for weekly morning sessions (\$35 per day), or \$165 for weekly full-day sessions (\$45

per day). Register at the Recreation Department Office or call (760) 934-8989 ext. 222 for information.

Notify Me!

Receive updates sent directly to your email or phone from the Town of Mammoth Lakes by subscribing to "Notify Me." Found on the left side of www.ci.mammoth-lakes.ca.us, stay current with Public Service Announcements, Emergency Alerts, Town e-News, Recreation This Week, No Burn Announcements, DNDP updates, bid postings, news flash, calendar items, and more! Make smart decisions, subscribe today!

Get Gymnastics Fever!

This year-round program is designed to introduce children from 3-18 years old the wonderful and exciting sport of gymnastics. Offered by Michelle DeJong, a level 8 competitive gymnast and Level 1-5 gymnastics coach, participants will learn to tumble and more in a safe and structured environment. This program is also a recipient of Measure R funding with \$7,000 of gymnastic equipment. Three age sessions are available at the Community Center on Forest Trail.

- 3-5 yr. olds – Saturday: 9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.
- 5-8 yr. olds – Saturday: 10:15 a.m. – 11:15 a.m.
- 8-12+ yr. olds – Wednesday: 4:30 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. & Saturday: 11:15 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.
- 8-12+ yr. olds – Tuesday: 6:00 – 8:00 p.m. – Invitation only.

Five session Punch Cards are available for \$60 for the first family member and \$55 for each additional family member. Private lessons are available upon request, please inquire with the instructor. Drop-ins cost \$15 per session are welcome and encouraged - First one is FREE! Please call (760) 934-8989 ext. 222 for more information or to register your aspiring Gymnast!

Zumba Fitness

Party yourself into shape with Zumba® Fitness offered by Kaysie Williams from 5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. at the Mammoth Lakes Community Center, 1000 Forest Trail. Cost: 10 punch-\$77.50; 5 punch-\$42.50; Drop-In rate \$10 per class and your first class is only \$5!

Sports & Recreation Calendar

- On-going Gymnastics/Tumbling Program at the Community Center
- On-going Zumba Fitness at the Community Center
- On-going Little Sluggers Instructional T-ball
- OPEN Tioga, Sonora and the Lakes Basin
- May 18 Sierra Star & Snowcreek Golf Course Opening Day
- May 19 Skier X Camp with Johnny Teller
- May 19 Chix on Stix Camp
- May 19 Town Clean Up Day
- May 21 Whitmore Pool Opens for Public Lap Swim
- May 22 Whitmore Pool Opens for Afternoon Lap Swim
- May 26 Memorial Day Madness at Mammoth!
- May 26 Speed Race Camp with US Ski Team Members
- May 28 Mammoth Mountain Ski Area Closing Day
- May 29 Measure R Spring Applicant Presentations (if necessary)

- June 2 National Trails Day
- June 2 Mammoth AYSO Final Registration & FREE Soccer Clinic @ Shady Rest Park
- June 8 Mammoth Roller Rink Opens!
- June 20 Mountain Bike Camp
- June 25 UK Soccer Camp, Session 1

Public Service Announcements

Free, Real-Time Property Information Now Available!

The Town of Mammoth Lakes and Mono County are proud to present ParcelViewer, the Town and County's official web-based property information system. This free, public, on-line service can be relied upon to provide convenient, accurate and up-to-date information, based on the official Assessor's data-base. Use ParcelViewer to view and print customized parcel information and maps, including:

- Zoning Information
- Property Addresses
- Complex Names/ Condo Unit Numbers
- Parcel Lines*
- Valuation Data
- Acreage
- Aerial imagery of surrounding properties and more!

Visit ParcelViewer today at <http://gis.mono.ca.gov/parcelviewer/>

California Mandates Recycling for Business and Multi-Family Residential Locations

A new State of California Bill (AB 341) directed by CalRecycle mandating commercial recycling in California goes into effect July 1, 2012. The Town of Mammoth Lakes will be providing education and outreach to help the community comply with the new regulations.

The goal of AB 341 is to increase the statewide recycling rates to 75% by 2020. Starting July 1 2012, businesses and public entities that generate four cubic yards or more of waste per week, including multi-family units of five or more will be required to recycle. The purpose of this new law is to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by diverting commercial solid waste to recycling efforts while expanding opportunities for additional recycling services and recycling manufacturing facilities in California.

Please use the following link for additional information provided by CalRecycle that addresses the "Frequently Asked Questions:" <http://www.calrecycle.ca.gov/climate/Recycling/FAQ.htm>.

The Town of Mammoth Lakes (TOML), Sierra Conservation Project (SCP) and Mammoth Disposal (MD) are taking active steps to assist businesses and multi-family residences to comply with the new regulations.

Brian Robinette, owner of Sierra Conservation Project commented, "This is a big step in the right direction for recycling and diverting recyclables from our local landfills. The new regulation will give the extra incentive needed to make recycling programs a reality at all Mammoth Lakes business and residential locations."

The TOML, SCP and MD have been working together for several years to develop and grow recycling programs here in the Town of Mammoth Lakes.

Johnny Goetz, Town of Mammoth Lakes Senior Building Inspector states, "Now is a great time for local businesses to take advantage of the numerous recycling opportunities we have available in Town. Condominium complexes can also take advantage of the TOML and SCP's recycling programs which are currently providing start-up infrastructure to the complex at no cost - while supplies last."

The TOML and SCP have applied for additional grant money to continue to offset the start-up cost for multi-family and businesses here in town. Bear proof recycling containers are provided to participating condo complexes, and are serviced by SCP.

Pat Fenton, General Manager of Mammoth Disposal added, "Recycling is at the core of the company's goal of sustainability, and it's the core of our commitment to business owners and the Town of Mammoth Lakes to meet this mandate."

The following recycling programs are currently available within the Town of Mammoth Lakes:

- Commercial cardboard recycling
- Restaurant and bar programs
- Lodging and hospitality programs
- Business recycling
- Office recycling
- Residential recycling
- Aluminum, plastic, and glass
- E-Waste
- Used oil and batteries

Some of the benefits of recycling identified by CalRecycle are creating jobs in California, reducing greenhouse gas emissions, keeping valuable materials out of landfills, and creating a healthy environment for the community and future generations by recovering natural resources.

For more information regarding recycling programs and opportunities within the Town of Mammoth Lakes, contact Johnny Goetz at (760) 934-8989 ext. 244 or jgoetz@ci.mammoth-lakes.ca.us.

Town & MLFD Identify Potential Safety Issue

The Town of Mammoth Lakes Community Development Department (Town) and Mammoth Lakes Fire Department (Fire District) have identified an issue with inserted wood burning fireplace installations in town. If you have either a pellet/gas insert installation or a masonry flue/chase, these types of appliances or installations are not an issue. The issue is that wood burning inserts placed into zero clearance fireplace boxes (fireplace) with factory built metal flue pipes and wooden chases may not have adequate clearance to combustible materials (wood, plywood, and/or sheetrock behind the rock, brick, metal and/or wooden material that doesn't allow you to see on the interior surface of the fireplace façade). This issue can exist in all types of residential occupancies, from single family to multi-family projects. As a result of the clearances that may not have been met, combustible materials are igniting and several fires have resulted around town. Thus far there have been no injuries, but both the Town and Fire District feel that we cannot wait until something tragic occurs before we take necessary action. At this point both agencies are hoping to educate the town population to the concern.

The original fireplace contained fires that never obtained very high burning temperatures, due to the amount of heat that went up the flue. Once the insert was installed, the appliance burned much more efficiently causing the combustibles surrounding the original installation to be exposed to significantly greater heat levels. Another factor is the amount of use the insert is experiencing. The issue is occurring throughout town; no certain complex, no certain installer, no certain type of product, nor any other common characteristic that allows the agencies to narrow down the likely installations of concern. One complex in town had 23 of 60 units show some sign of heat damage to combustibles.

Permitted installations during the last 18 to 24 months that followed the manufacturer's installation instructions have been installed correctly. The Town and Fire District do not mean to alarm anyone, but strongly believe that this situation is serious enough to inform the public on the use and installation of these types of wood burning installations. If you need any further assistance or have any questions, please contact the Fire District at (760) 934-2300 or Town at (760) 934-8989, ex 244. For more information: <http://mammothlakesfd.intuitwebsites.com>

Transient Occupancy Tax (TOT) Frequently Asked Questions

Some of the most frequently asked questions about legal rentals and Transient Occupancy Tax (TOT) are:

1. What is a transient rental?

A transient rental is any unit that is occupied for the purpose of sleeping, lodging, or similar reasons for a period of 30 consecutive days or less in exchange for a fee or similar consideration.

2. Can I rent my unit as a transient rental?

Only some zones within the Town of Mammoth Lakes permit transient rentals. The following zones permit transient rentals:

- RMF-2 (Residential Multi-family 2)
- CL (Commercial Lodging)
- CG Commercial General)
- R (Resort, including master plan areas)
- SP (Specific Plan, including North Village and Clearwater)

This list is intended as a guide only. Although the above zones permit transient use generally, other regulations, such as those found in master plans, CC&Rs, or project conditions of approval may prohibit transient rental within a particular development. Generally, transient rental of single family homes is prohibited. A zoning map can be found on the Town's website.

3. What is transient occupancy tax (TOT)?

Transient occupancy tax, or TOT, is a 13% tax that is charged "for the privilege of occupancy of any transient occupancy facility." The tax is required to be paid to the operator of the transient occupancy facility at the time the rent is paid. It is the operator's responsibility to remit the TOT to the Town.

4. Do I need to pay TOT?

If you are renting your unit as a transient rental, even if it is only for one weekend a year, you need to pay TOT. This includes single family homes and other units that are not permitted to rent nightly, but may be doing so illegally. TOT shall be remitted for each night the unit is rented.

5. Do I need a business tax certificate?

Yes, if you are renting your unit on a transient basis.

6. Do I need a transient occupancy tax certificate?

Yes. You are required to purchase a transient occupancy certificate for each rental unit to post in your transient rental property. This is included as part of Schedule E or F in the business tax certificate application.

7. What is the difference between a business tax certificate and a transient occupancy tax certificate?

Business tax is an annual tax and is required for all business activity. The transient occupancy tax certificate is a one-time purchase that is non-transferable. This certificate is required to be posted in your transient rental unit.

8. Do I need a business tax certificate if all of my rentals are handled through a reservation company?

If all of your rentals are handled through a reservation company, most reservation companies will purchase the transient occupancy tax certificate and collect and remit the TOT to the Town. You may wish to check with your reservation company to confirm that this is being taken care of. If you rent your unit by owner in addition to renting with a property management company, you are also required to obtain a separate business tax certificate and transient occupancy tax certificate.

9. How do I apply for a business tax certificate?

The Town's website contains information regarding business tax certificates, including an application for a business tax certificate: <http://www.ci.mammoth-lakes.ca.us/index.aspx?NID=182>. Transient Rentals fall under schedule F for condominium rentals and schedule E for hotels, motels, lodges, and campgrounds. This application can be mailed back to the Town, or submitted in person. The total cost for one unit is \$118.00 (\$65.00 application fee, \$5.00 planning review fee, \$25.00 fee to rent one unit, \$23.00 TOT certificate fee). Additional costs apply for additional units. Business tax certificates are required on or before the first day business commences; penalties will apply for late filings. If you have additional questions regarding this process please contact the Finance Department at (760) 934-8989 x245.

10. Do I have a business tax certificate?

To find out if you have a valid business tax certificate on file, please contact the Finance Department at (760) 934-8989 x245 or your property management company.

11. What is illegal rental activity?

Illegal rental activity is any rental activity that is not consistent with the Town's Zoning Ordinance, or any rental activity that is not compliant with the Transient Occupancy Tax Ordinance. This can include transient rental of units located in zones that prohibit transient rentals. It can also include transient rentals in a zone where it is permitted, but when the TOT is not remitted to the Town.

12. How can I report illegal rental activity?

If you suspect illegal rental activity, you may submit an anonymous tip via the Town's TOT hotline at (760) 934-8989 x275 or on the Town's website via the Transient Occupancy Tax information page. Please include any information that you have that would substantiate the claim, along with the property address and owner's name if you have it. You may also email tot@ci.mammoth-lakes.ca.us. Note that emails are not anonymous, however, staff will do its best to keep your information private.

13. Questions & Anonymous TOT Hotline

If you have questions about TOT enforcement, or if you would like to report suspicious activity or rental advertisements please contact our anonymous hotline. The Town will follow-up on any reports submitted. The Hot Line Number is (760) 934-8989 ext. 275 or email your information to: TOT@ci.mammoth-lakes.ca.us.

Register for CodeRED

Residents of Mono County can register their cell phones to receive emergency CodeRED (reverse 911) alerts from Mono County. This is a county public service available to all Mono County residents so please tell your friends and neighbors in Mono County that they can register for this service. CodeRED announcements are for personal notification and will not replace CERT CAHAN notification. Here is how to sign register/sign up using the INTERNET:

1. Go to monosheriff.org
2. scroll down left side panel to CodeRED community notification system;
3. click on it and follow directions.

Leash Law Reminder

Mammoth residents and visitors are reminded that the Town has a leash law, and it is a violation of the ordinance to allow your dog to run loose off of your property. While budget cuts eliminated the Animal Control Officer position, the laws pertaining to controlling your pets did not change, and you can still be cited by Mammoth Lakes Police Department officers if your dog is at large. The PD is currently receiving a large number of complaints from several neighborhoods, and will be targeting patrol time in those areas when possible to apprehend loose dogs and to cite their owners. In addition to the citation fine, you could also be charged boarding fees by Mono County Animal Control if we choose to impound your dog at the Whitmore Shelter.

At-large dogs are a traffic hazard, and even the most well behaved dog can bite if provoked. If your loose animal causes a traffic collision or injures/bites someone, you would likely be liable for damages, which could add up to thousands of dollars. Please respect your neighbors, AND your pet and obey the leash law.

Carbon Monoxide Detectors Save Lives

The Town of Mammoth Lakes has launched a community outreach effort to inform community residents that on July 1, 2011 many homes will be required to install carbon monoxide detectors.

The Federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention estimate that carbon monoxide kills approximately 500 people each year and injures another 20,000 people nationwide. In an effort to prevent these accidental deaths and injuries, the California legislature enacted SB 183 (Lowenthal) which mandates owners of dwelling intended for human occupancy to install carbon monoxide devices in existing dwelling units having a fossil fuel burning heater or appliance, fireplace, or attached garage.

CO devices must be installed in all specified single-family dwellings by July 1, 2011. All other specified dwelling units must have CO devices installed by January 1, 2013.

The Office of the State Fire Marshal (SFM) has developed a list of certified CO devices that meet the requirement specified within the Carbon Monoxide Poisoning Prevention Act of 2010.

For a complete list of currently approved devices please visit the SFM's website at http://osfm.fire.ca.gov/licensinglistings/licenselistig_bml_searchcotest.php. Under the search categories provided select Carbon Monoxide Alarms and Carbon Monoxide Detectors for a complete list of devices.

Further details contained within the Carbon Monoxide Poisoning Prevention Act of 2010:

- Owners shall install CO devices in a manner consistent with building standards applicable to new construction for the relevant type of occupancy if it is technically feasible. See the 2010 California Building Code, Section 420.4, and the 2010 California Residential Code, Section R315.
- CO devices shall produce a distinct audible alarm.
- CO devices may be combined with a smoke detector, if the combination device meets all specified SFM listing and approval requirements.
- Violation of Health & Safety Code Section 17926 is an infraction punishable by a maximum fine of two-hundred dollars for each offense.
- A local enforcement agency shall provide the property owner a 30-day notice to correct.
- Local jurisdictions are authorized to adopt ordinances requiring CO devices if the ordinance is consistent with the requirement of this bill.

For a full list of this legislation's stipulations please review the Department of Housing and Community Development's Information Bulletin 2011-01 at <http://www.hcd.ca.gov/codes/shl/infobulls/IB2011-01.pdf>.

Town Outdoor Lighting Ordinance

In 2003, the Town implemented an outdoor lighting ordinance to eliminate light pollution and preserve views of our starry skies. The outdoor lighting ordinance was adopted to encourage residents to administer a lighting system that not only promotes public safety and night-time ambiance but to maximize energy conservation. To eliminate glare and light trespass into neighboring properties and roadways, the outdoor lighting fixtures on your property should be shielded and re-

directed to shine downward or changed out to a lower wattage. More information about responsible lighting can be found at www.crlaction.org.